Utica Nov. 5. 1838

My dear Brother

You will see by my date that the regular time for my writing to you has passed - the reason for which I will not now stop to assign as it will appear in the course of this communication - I have been gratified since my last - by the receipt of your letter of July 15th & 21st - which I found here on the 26th ult - It had been forwarded to Detroit & returned to this place - I was not only gratified, but relieved from a state of suspense & anxiety on your account - for two months had elapsed without any intelligence from you - I attributed this delay however to the irregularity & uncertainty of the posts - not to the *true* cause, as it appears, viz your neglect to write - But my dear brother, I do not say this by way of complaint I have very much to thank you & be grateful for, in that you remember me so often & devote so *much* time to me - It is only because I *love* you so well, & feel so deep an interest in all your wanderings, that I cannot be satisfied to have a very long interval between your communications -

I left Detroit on the 4th ult. in company with Theodore & Anna. We had a pleasant passage across the Lake & arrived in Buffalo in thirty three hours - This was the last comfortable passage made for a long period - the delightful weather just then, broke up, with a succession of severe gales, & many of the boats were in danger of being wrecked - Theodore had business in B - which he expected would detain him two or three days - but as it depended upon other men, & he was obliged to wait their exceedingly dilatory movements - he found it impossible to complete it until the eleventh day - We stayed at the "American" - a fine house - but not very well kept - We had however pleasant rooms, & contrived to pass the time very agreeably - As one source of amusement we went to the Theatre, to witness the performances of the Ravel family - The exhibition is truly wonderful in feats of strength & agility - & having never seen any thing of the kind - as dancing on the "tight rope" &c &c, I was much amused

We left B - on the morning of the 17th - by stage to Batavia - thence to Rochester by rail road - passed the night at R - & took an early start for Auburn, again by stage - At Geneva, I called to see our cousin Whiting but as my only opportunity was while the other passengers were dining our interview was necessarily brief - she seemed very glad to see me &

pressed me to stop & make her a visit — She enquired after all friends, & you among the number — I was glad to see her, though it was but a moment for she is an exceedingly estimable woman & I would not like to suffer all intercourse to drop — These two days were very tolerable weather — but the recent rains had made the roads very muddy — so that the ride was considerably fatiguing — At Auburn it rained again — but we took the rail road to Syracuse & got on very comfortably — This road is not yet ironed & the cars are drawn by horse power — but we passed over it, 25 miles, 2½ hours — We remained at Syracuse until evening — then took the packet and arrived in Utica on the morning of the 26th — At 8 — I called to see cousin Elbert's widow — found her living on ~~in~~ the same quiet way — & still mourning deeply for her husband —

I had supposed my journeyings over for a time when I arrived here, but Anna afterwards concluded to go to Vermont with her husband, & wished me to accompany her — As they were anxious to get on as fast as possible we took the night train of cars, leaving here at 9 o'clock, P.M. & reached Schenectady at 4 A.M. — Here we obtained some hours rest & then went on to Saratoga — This far famed village which I had never seen, I found more pleasant than I had supposed — but of course, as the houses are all closed, wearing an air of desolation & desertion — After making a hurried visit to the Congress Spring — we left in the stage for Fort Edward — The ride was pleasant — & afterwards we completed the labours of the day by a passage on the canal from Fort E — to Whitehall — — — Theodore's business was at Orwell twenty miles above W— & as he was to go by steam boat he proposed our going down the Lake as far as Burlington — & taking the returning boat two hours after landing there — He ~~would~~ was to meet again on our return to Orwell — The weather was fine — the boat in which we embarked one of the finest & neatest I have ever seen — every thing promised fair but soon after T— left us, Anna was attacked by severe pain in her side from which, situated as she was, it was impossible to obtain any relief —

It was some hours before we reached Burlington — & then, the pain having been on so long — the usual remedy of a warm bath — had no effect — We called a Physician, — but she did not obtain any relief until the use of the second bath about twelve hours after the attack — Of course we were compelled to remain at B— & send for T— to come to us — He came the next evening, Wednesday — & Anna recovered so far that we were able to leave Thursday evening — in the steam boat for Whitehall — Friday morning we left W— in the stage for Saratoga — & from thence went to Troy by railroad — to

Saturday we went to Albany, & spent that day & the next at Mr Stafford's the brother in law of J— Sabbath night we returned to this place — but it was not until Thursday that they were ready to set off on their homeward journey — since that time I have been with my friend Mrs Dean — She & the Judge seem well satisfied with each other — are living in a very pleasant quiet way — happy themselves, & disposed to add to the happiness of those around them — But I have been in such a state of excitement for the last month, going from place to place, & seeing so much & so many people that it seems very tame — & I have not settled down enough yet to relish it

I think to go to Clinton this week for a short visit — though the roads are so intolerable that it is quite possible that I may not — I understand that Uncle's family are in usual health & also Mrs Kirkland — I do not propose to remain here very long — shall probably leave for New Haven next week — It is very long since I have heard from Conn friends — I think not since my last letter to you — It is however my own fault for I requested them not to write until they heard again from me — As I have since written I expect intelligence soon — but this must be despatched first so that it will be of no advantage to you —

Last evening I spent very pleasantly to myself in reading your letters from the Levant to my friends — The Judge expressed much gratification & said he had had a 'rich treat' — I have still *three* unread — left for another evening — I hope it is time for another letter from you & that I shall receive it here this week — My latest intelligence from Therese direct, is about the same as that you communicated — Now I hope to have more frequent & regular information of her & her dear children — How dear Eddy must have changed since I saw him! —

This is the week of the Election in this State — & all parties are on the alert — The Van Burenites profess to be certain as to the result — but the Whigs have *hopes*, as well as fears — It will undoubtedly be severely contested as much depends, to both parties on its result — C. P. Kirkland is the Whig candidate for Congress & John Floyd his brother in law his opponent — Seward is again a candidate for Gov. — & for Lieut Gov — Luther Bradish — — The season as yet has been mild, with the exception of a few days though very rainy for the last month — Snow has however fallen lightly here & we have seen it on high hills further east, — it has however disappeared — The paper announces that at N. H. on the 1st the thermometer was at 18 degrees — & that there was snow of the depth of several inches in some of the back country h1k

This is the latest day for sending by the packet of the 8th — & as I have given you all the items I can at present think I will close — with much love to sister Theresa & to both children — Your affectionate sister

Elizabeth.

El. R. Nov. 6. 1838
Recd Dec. 9.

Rev Edward Robinson D.D.
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Jüdenhof No 16

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